

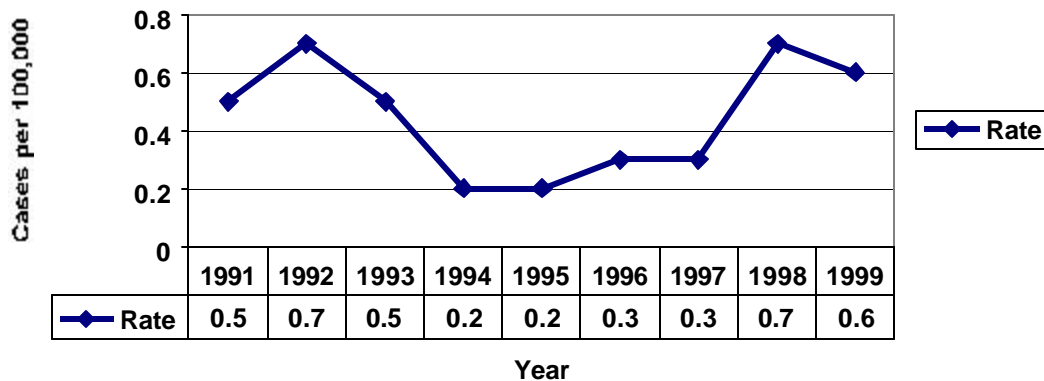
LEGIONELLOSIS

Legionellosis, a bacterial disease caused by *Legionellae* bacteria, has two distinct manifestations: “Legionnaires’ disease” and “Pontiac fever”. Both illnesses have an acute onset characterized by malaise, headache, and fever. In Legionnaires’ disease, pneumonia may develop and progress to respiratory failure. Patients with Pontiac fever do not develop pneumonia and recover within two to five days. Airborne transmission by aerosol producing devices is the most likely method of transmission. Legionnaires’ disease occurs both sporadically and in outbreaks. Pontiac fever is identified primarily in community outbreaks.

Laboratory Criteria for Confirmation:

- Isolation of *Legionella* species from respiratory secretions, lung tissue, pleural fluid, or other normally sterile fluids, **OR**
- Positive Direct Fluorescence Antibody (DFA) test of lower respiratory secretion, pleural fluid or tissue specimen for *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1, **OR**
- Fourfold or greater change of serum reciprocal immunofluorescence antibody titer to ≥ 128 against *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1, **OR**
- Demonstration of *L. pneumophila* serogroup 1 antigens in urine by radioimmunoassay (RIA) or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).

Legionellosis Incidence, Kentucky 1991-1999



	1998	1999
Number of Cases	27	22
Rate per 100,000	0.7	0.6

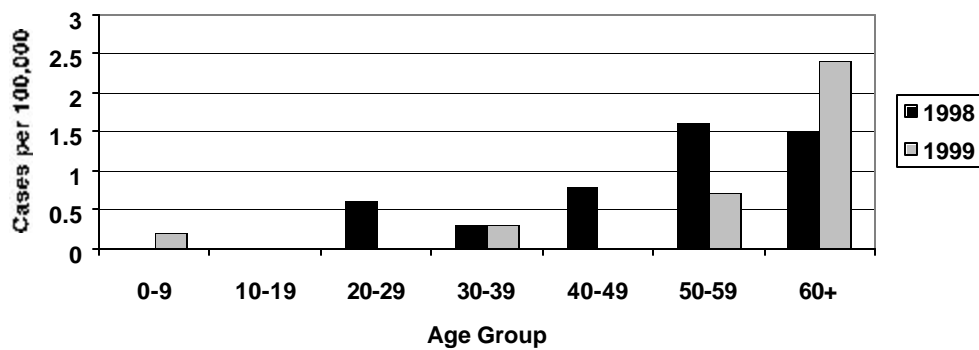
Rate by Gender (per 100,000)

Female	0.5	0.4
Male	0.8	0.7

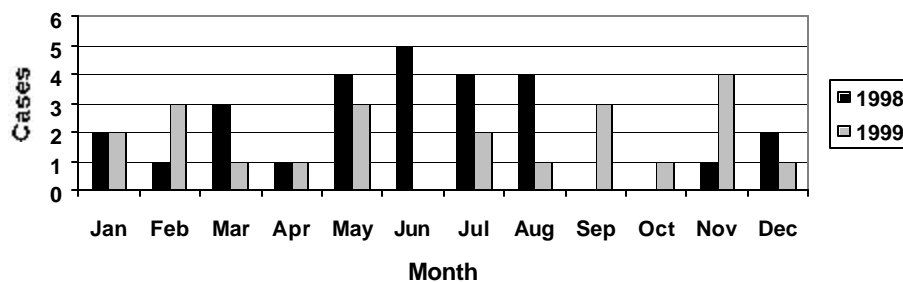
Rate by Race (per 100,000)

White	0.6	0.5
Black	0.4	0.7

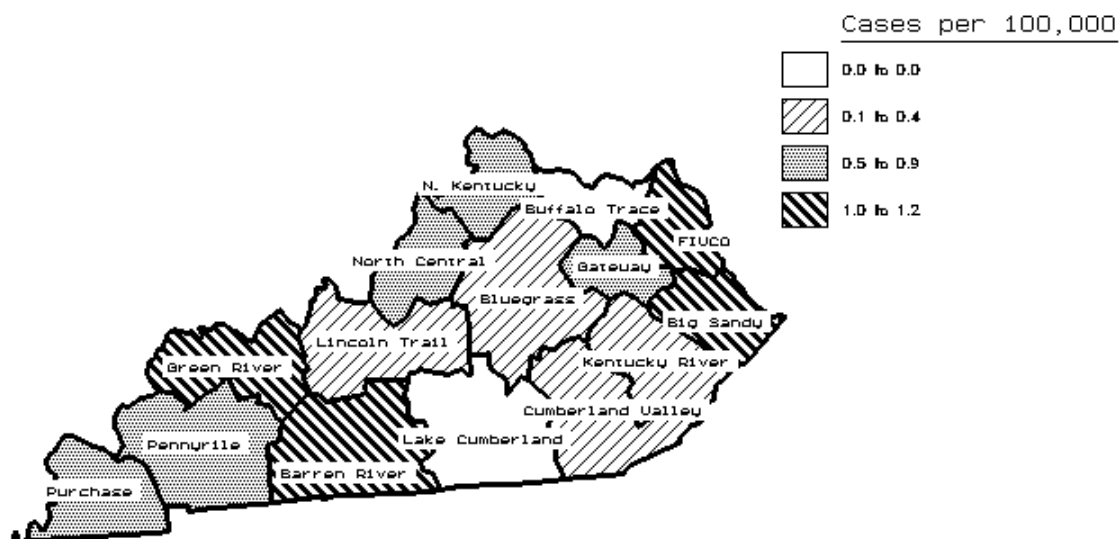
Legionellosis, Age-Specific Incidence Kentucky, 1998-1999



Legionellosis, Reported Cases by Month of Onset Kentucky, 1998-1999



Legionellosis by District, Kentucky Average Annual Incidence, 1998-1999



In 1998 and 1999 no cases were reported from two area development districts, the Buffalo Trace District and the Lake Cumberland District.